

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A distribution content creating apparatus comprising:
a content storage part operable to store content bodies;
a distribution content creating part operable to create a distribution content by reading a content body from said content storage part and providing the read content body with a use condition; and

a distribution content storage part operable to store the distribution content created by said distribution content creating part; wherein:

said distribution content creating part includes a management data editing part operable to edit management data for at least one specific section of the read content body indicating the use condition of the specific section;

the specific section of the read content body is at least one of a plurality of sections on a time axis constituting the read content body;

said distribution content creating part is further operable to create the distribution content by providing the content body with a plurality of pieces of management data edited by said management data editing part and with management track data which defines, as a management track, a collection of at least one management data selected from the plurality of pieces of management data; and

a plurality of management tracks are defined in the distribution content corresponding to a plurality of different uses of the content body, and the plurality of different uses are different in terms of at least one of a reproduction section of the content body and a reproduction condition of the content body.

2. (Previously Presented) The distribution content creating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the use condition indicated by the management data prohibits use of the section specified by the management data, allows the use of the section specified by the management data for free, or allows the use of the section specified by the management data in return for payment of a predetermined fee.

3. (Previously Presented) The distribution content creating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the management data further indicates a replay order of the section specified by the management data.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The distribution content creating apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a character input part operable to supply a character input to said distribution content creating unit; and

GUI input part operable to supply a GUI input to said distribution content creating unit; wherein:

said management data editing part is further operable to make a GUI screen be displayed, the GUI screen including a plurality of management tracks provided along a time axis;

said management data editing part is further operable to edit the management data of the specific section by receiving, through said character input part, a start time and an end time for defining the specific section of the content body on the time axis, and the use condition for one of the plurality of different uses; and

said management data editing part is further operable to place, based on the edited management data, a bar on the management track corresponding to one of the plurality of different uses in the GUI screen.

6. (Previously Presented) The distribution content creating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said distribution content creating part further includes a management data storage part operable to store the management data edited by said management data editing part.

7. (Previously Presented) The distribution content creating apparatus according to claim 6, wherein

said management data editing part is further operable to read the management data previously edited from said management data storage part, and to place, based on the read management data, a bar on the management track in the GUI screen, and

said management data editing part is further operable to edit the management data by moving at least one end of the bar along the time axis through an operation by said GUI input part.

8. (Previously Presented) The distribution content creating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said distribution content creating part further includes a replay part operable to read the distribution content from said distribution content storage part and to replay, based on the management data, the specific section of the content body.

9. (Previously Presented) The distribution content creating apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said replay part is further operable to select one of the plurality of pieces of management track data included in the read distribution content and, based on at least one piece of the management data included in the management track defined by the management track data, to replay at least one specific section of the content body.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of creating a distribution content including a content body provided with a use condition, said method comprising:

storing content bodies;

creating a distribution content by reading a content body stored in said storing of the content bodies and providing the read content body with the use condition; and

storing the distribution content created in said creating of the distribution content; wherein in said creating of the distribution content

management data for at least one specific section of the read content body indicating the use condition of the specific section is edited, and

the specific section of the read content body is at least one of a plurality of sections on a time axis constituting the read content body, and

the distribution content is created by providing the read content body with a plurality of pieces of the edited management data and with management track

data which defines, as a management track, a collection of at least one of the management data selected from the plurality of pieces of management data; and wherein a plurality of management tracks are defined in the distribution content corresponding to a plurality of different uses of the content body, and the plurality of different uses are different in terms of at least one of a reproduction section of the content body and a reproduction condition of the content body.

11. (Currently Amended) A content distribution system comprising:

a distribution content creating apparatus operable to create a distribution content including a content body provided with a use condition;

a distributing apparatus operable to distribute the distribution content created by said distribution content creating apparatus; and

a terminal operable to receive and use the distribution content distributed by said distributing apparatus;

wherein said distribution content creating apparatus includes:

a content storage part operable to store content bodies;

a distribution content creating part operable to create the distribution content by reading a content body from said content storage part and providing the read content body with the use condition; and

a first distribution content storage part operable to store the distribution content created by said distribution content creating part;

wherein said distribution content creating part includes a management data editing part operable to edit management data for at least one specific section of the read content body indicating the use condition of the specific section;

wherein the specific section of the read content body is at least one of a plurality of sections on a time axis constituting the read content body;

wherein said distribution content creating part is further operable to create the distribution content by providing the content body with a plurality of pieces of the management data edited by said management data editing part, and with management track data which defines, as a management track, a collection of at least one management data selected from the plurality of pieces of management data;

wherein a plurality of management tracks are defined in the distribution content corresponding to a plurality of different uses of the content body, and the plurality of different uses are different in terms of at least one of a reproduction section of the content body and a reproduction condition of the content body; and

wherein said terminal includes:

a receiving part operable to receive the distribution content distributed by said distributing apparatus;

a second distribution content storage part operable to store the distribution content received by said receiving part; and

replay part operable to read the distribution content from said second distribution content storage part, to select one of the plurality of management tracks included in the distribution content stored in said second distribution content storage part according to one of the plurality of different uses, and to replay, according to the selected management track, the specific section of the content body.

12. (Currently Amended) A terminal for receiving a distribution content including a content body, and a plurality of pieces of management data respectively indicating a use condition which is effective to a specific section of the content body, the specific section of the read content body being at least one of a plurality of sections on a time axis constituting the read content body, and the plurality of pieces of management data having management track data which defines as a management track a collection of at least one management data selected from the plurality of pieces of management data, wherein a plurality of management tracks are defined in the distribution content corresponding to a plurality of different uses of the content body, and the plurality of different uses are different in terms of at least one of a reproduction section of the content body and a reproduction condition, said terminal comprising:

a receiving part operable to receive the distribution content;

a distribution content storage part operable to store the distribution content received by said receiving part; and

a replay part operable to read the distribution content from said distribution content storage part, to select one of the plurality of management tracks included in the distribution content stored in said distribution content storage part according to one of the plurality of different uses, and to replay, according to the selected management track, the specific section of the content body.

13. (Previously Presented) The terminal according to claim 12, wherein:

the use condition indicated by the management data prohibits the use of the section specified by the management data, allows the use of the section specified by the management data for free, or allows the use of the section specified by the management data in return for payment of a predetermined fee;

said terminal further comprises a billing part operable to charge a fee based on the management data; and

said replay part is operable to replay the section when the use condition allows the use of the section for free, , and said replay part is operable to replay the section after said billing part charges the fee when the use condition allows the use of the section in return for payment of the predetermined fee.

14. (Previously Presented) The terminal according to claim 12, wherein

the management data further indicates a replay order of the section specified by the management data, and

said replay part is operable to replay at least one section specified by the management data in the replay order indicated by the management data.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A distribution content in which an arrangement of information is contained and which is embodied in a processor readable memory, said distribution content comprising:

a content body; and

at least one piece of management data each for at least one specific section of the read content body and indicating the use condition of the specific section; and

the specific section of the read content body being at least one of a plurality of sections on a time axis constituting the read content body; and

management track data which defines, as a management track, a collection of at least one management data selected from a plurality of pieces of the management data;

wherein a plurality of management tracks are defined in the distribution content corresponding to a plurality of different uses of the content body, and the plurality of different uses are different in terms of at least one of a reproduction section of the content body and a reproduction condition of the content body.

17. (Previously Presented) The distribution content according to claim 16, wherein the use condition indicated by the management data prohibits the use of the section specified by the management data, allows the use of the section specified by the management data for free, or allows the use of the section specified by the management data in return for payment of a predetermined fee.

18. (Previously Presented) The distribution content according to claim 16, wherein the management data further indicates a replay order of the section specified by the management data.

19. (Cancelled)